**Overcharging on Combiflam**

311. SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) when his Ministry noticed about the overcharging of price of Combiflam formulations;

(b) what was the price fixed by Government and what price of each formulation was being charged by the Company and since when;

(c) when were the details asked from the Company and what are the details of information asked;

(d) by when the amount overcharged would be assessed;

(e) when was the State Drugs Controller, West Bengal asked to initiate legal action for violation of Drugs (Prices Control) Order and what is the progress;

(f) by when legal action as per law would be taken;

(g) whether it is a fact that a number of other instances of overcharging has come to the notice of his Ministry; and

(h) if so, what are the details of such instances under DPCO 1979 and 1987 and action taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (f) Most of the information has already been submitted in reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 2 answered on 30.4.1990. The details of price fixed from time to time by the Government in respect of Combiflam tablets and the price charged thereof by the Company is given below:—

Price in rupees for 10' strip.

| Date | Price fixed by the Government under D.P.C.O. 1987 | | Price charged by the Company | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1-12-88 . . . . . | 4.90 | | 12.00 | |
| 14-6-89 . . . . . | 5.43 | (Ceiling price) | 12.00 | till mid August 1989 and thereafter Rs. 5.43. |
| 18-8-89 . . . . . | 6.44 | (Ceiling price) | 6.44 | |

(g) and (h) As and when the instances of over-charging are brought to the notice of the Government, necessary action as per rules is taken.

**Sale of imported bulk drugs**

312. SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1655 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th March, 1990 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of imported bulk drugs were sold in the country without any price approval under DPCO, 1979;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the importers did not submit any application for price approval;

(c) what is the total number of applications received for price approval

for imported bulk drugs under DPCO, 1979 and in how many cases price approval was granted;

(d) whether it is also a fact that amounts overcharged runs into cro--es;

(e) what is the total amount recovered upto 31st March, 1990;

(f) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry issued notices to certain importers;

(g) if so, what are the details thereof;

(h) whether it is also a fact that the provision has been abolished under DPCO, 1987; and

(i) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (i) Information for answering this question would require examination of voluminous data and the time and effort involved would not be commensurate with the results expected to be achieved. If there is specific information about overcharging, the same would be enquired into and action taken.

**Representation against wrong assessment of overcharged amounts on drugs**

313. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1593 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th March, 1990 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of representations have been received by his Ministry against the amounts assessed by the Special team;

(b) if so, what is the number of representations received after the submission of assessment report by the the Special Team upto the 25th April, 1990;

(c) what is the nature of these representations and what action has been taken on these representations;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the liabilities have been deliberately suppressed;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) what steps are being taken to determine the correct liabilities against the companies involved?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c) A number of representations have been received against the tentative assessment of the liabilities upto 31-12-83 made by the Special Team in respect of the companies involved in the Supreme Court case. These representations deal with the issues relating to set offs, under assessment of the liabilities, ignoring the liabilities in respect of formulations etc.

(d) to (f) In view of the large number of Complaints that have been received, findings of the Special Team and the developments thereafter are being looked into afresh. The process of scrutiny has just begun.

**Overcharging on Doxtropropoxyphene Hcl.**

314. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whetheer it is a fact that instances of violation of fixed price of Doxtropropxyphene Hcl under DPCO, 1979 came to the notice of his Ministry;

(b) if so, when were the prices of Doxtropropoxyphene Hcl fixed under DPCO 1979 and when th eviolation of the fixed prices came to the notice of his Ministry;

(c) what has been the sale by each producer from the date of price fixation and at what price sales have been made yearwise upto the 31st March, 1988;

(d) when was the show cause notice issued to the producers for the first time and what has been its outcome; and